

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

ABSTRACT

Telangana Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – proposal for 2<sup>nd</sup> Renewal of Tandur Mining Lease for diversion of Reduced area of 1427.22 ha (Originally proposed area 4902 ha) forest land for Open cast/Underground Coal mining in favour of M/s.Singareni Colliers Company Limited (SCCL)Bellampally Forest Division of Adilabad Circle, Adilabad district, Telangana (Online Proposal No.FP/TG/MIN/8109/2010) – Final (stage-II) approval – Accorded.

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ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 63

Dated: 18-06-2025

Read the following:-

- 1.From PCCF, T.S., Hyd., Lr. No.16474/2012/FCA-1/TS, Dt. 12.11.2014.
- 2.State Govt. Lr.No.3114/For.I (1)/2014, Dt.13.11.2014 & 29.12.2014.
3. GoI, MoEF & CC, FC Division, New Delhi, F.No.8-216/1985-FC(Pt.), Dt.12.12.2018.
- 4.From the PCCF(HoFF), T.S. Hyd. Ref.No.FC4/FC29/7/2022, Dt:05.04.2023.
- 5.Govt.Lr.No.3114/For.I(1)/2014, dt:30-05-2023.
- 6.From the Assistant Inspector General of Forests, GoI, MoEF&CC(Forest Conservation Division), New Delhi, Dt:07.05.2025.

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ORDER

In the letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana State, Hyderabad has furnished a proposal for 2<sup>nd</sup> Renewal of Tandur Mining Lease for diversion of Reduced area of 1427.22 ha (Originally proposed area 4902 ha) forest land for Open cast/Underground Coal mining in favour of M/s.Singareni Colliers Company Limited (SCCL)Bellampally Forest Division of Adilabad Circle, Adilabad district, Telangana (Online Proposal No.FP/TG/MIN/8109/2010).

2. In their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above, the Ministry of Environment & Forests Government of India, have granted in-principle (Stage-I) approval for the proposal forwarded vide letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated thereof.

3. In the letter 5<sup>th</sup> read above, Government of Telangana have sent the report of compliance on the conditions stipulated by Government of India, as submitted by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Telangana State, Hyderabad in his letter 4<sup>th</sup> read above, to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, New Delhi for according necessary approval.

4. In their letter 6<sup>th</sup> read above, the Central Government have granted final approval for the proposal in para 1 above, under Section 2 of the Forest (C) Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the conditions stipulated therein.

5. Accordingly, Government hereby accord **final (Stage-II)** approval proposal for 2<sup>nd</sup> Renewal of Tandur Mining Lease for diversion of Reduced area of 1427.22 ha (Originally proposed area 4902 ha) forest land for Open cast/Underground Coal mining in favour of M/s.Singareni Colliers Company Limited (SCCL)Bellampally Forest Division of Adilabad Circle, Adilabad district, Telangana (Online Proposal No.FP/TG/MIN/8109/2010).under section-2 of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, subject to fulfillment of the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;  
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- ii. The Compensatory afforestation shall be taken up by the Forest Department over 74.5 ha degraded forest land at the cost of the User Agency as per the approved CA scheme. As far as practicable a mixture of local indigenous species will be planted and mono-culture of a species has to be avoided.
- iii. Plantation shall be taken up of the extent of double the degraded area for the actual Encroachment area to extent of 1094.2 ha (actual Encroachment area-547.1 ha x 2 1094.2 ha) in various locations in Asifabad & Kaghaznagar Divisions of KB Asifabad District.
- iv. The State Govt. shall ensure that the Compensatory Afforestation and plantations shall raised within a period of three years with effect from the date of issue of final approval and maintained thereafter as per approved plan by the State Forest Department at the cost of the user agency deposited in account CAMPA account of the concerned State;
- v. The State Govt. shall ensure that before handing over the forest land to the UA the State Forest Department shall take possession of 5845.78 ha of forest land and complete demarcation of the proposed 1427.22 Ha forest land;
- vi. The State Govt. shall ensure that the user agency shall pay the additional amount of NPV, if so determined, as per the final decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and transfer the same to the National Authority CAMPA under intimation to this Ministry;
- vii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the cost of felling of trees shall be deposited by the user agency with the State Forest Department;
- viii. The State Govt. shall ensure that the land identified for the purpose of CA shall be clearly depicted on a Survey of India topo sheet of 1:50,000 scale;
- ix. The State Govt. shall ensure that the User Agency shall comply with the Hon'ble Supreme Court order and re-grass the mining area and any other areas which may have been disturbed due to mining to restore them to a condition which is fit for growth of fodder, flora, fauna, etc., in a timely manner;
- x. The State Govt. shall ensure that following activities, as per approved plan /schemes, shall be implemented in the lease area by the User Agency under the supervision of the State Forest Department. Approved scheme/plan shall be submitted to the Ministry along with compliance of 'in-principle' approval:
  - a. Mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of stream shall be implemented within a period of three year with effect from the issue of final approval in accordance with the approved Plan in consultation with the State Forest Department.
  - b. Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds, in the appropriate area within the mining lease to arrest soil erosion in accordance with the approved scheme;
  - c. Construction of check dams, retention /toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour in accordance with the approved scheme;

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- d. Stabilize the overburden dumps by appropriate grading/benching, in accordance with the approved scheme, so as to ensure that angles of repose at any given place is less than 28°; and
  - e. No damage shall be caused to the top-soil and the user agency will follow the top soil management plan;
- xi. Safety Zone Management: Following activities, at project cost, shall be implemented by the user agency for the management of safety zone as per relevant guidelines issued by the Ministry's guidelines:
  - a. User agency shall ensure demarcation of safety zone (7.5-meter strip all along the inner boundary of the mining lease area), and its fencing protection and regeneration by erecting adequate number of 6 feet high RCC boundary pillars inscribed with DGPS coordinates with barbed wire fencing within three years and maintained thereafter as per the approved working plan of the State Govt.
  - b. Boundary of the safety zone of the mining lease, adjacent to habitation/roads, should be properly fenced by the user agency:
  - c. Safety zone shall be maintained as green belt around mining lease and to ensure dense canopy in the area, regeneration shall be taken up in this area by the user agency at project cost under the supervision of the State Forest Department,
  - d. Afforestation on identified degraded forest land, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost under the supervisions of the State Forest Department.
  - e. The State Government and the user agency shall ensure that safety zone is maintained as per the prescribed norms
- xii. The State Government shall ensure that the period of diversion of the said forest land under this approval shall be for a period co-terminus with the period of the mining lease proposed to be granted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, and the Rules framed there-under as amended;
- xiii. The State Government shall ensure that the user agency either itself or through the State Forest Department shall implement gap planting and soil & moisture conservation activities to restock and rejuvenate the degraded open forests (having crown density less than 0.4), if any, located in the area within 100 meters from outer perimeter of the mining lease;
- xiv. The State Government shall ensure that the User Agency shall implement the R&R Plan as per the R&R Policy of State Government in consonance with National R&R Policy, Government of India before the commencement of the project work and implementation. The said R&R Plan will be monitored by the State Government/Regional Office of MoEF &CC along with indicators for monitoring and expected observable milestones;
- xv. The State Government shall ensure that the User agency shall carried out mining in a phased manner and take due care for reclamation of the mined over area. The concurrent reclamation plan shall be executed by the User Agency as per the approved mining

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plan/scheme and an annual report on implementation thereof shall be submitted to the Nodal Officer, Government of Telangana and the DDGF (Central), Ministry of Environment & Forests, Regional Office, Chennai. If it is found from the annual report that the activities indicated in the concurrent reclamation plan are not being executed by the user agency, the Nodal Officer or the Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Central) may direct that the mining activities to be suspended till such time, such reclamation activities are satisfactorily executed;

- xvi. The State Government shall ensure that twice the number of trees felled in the leased forest and non-forest area are planted within or outside the leased area and information will be provided to the concerned Divisional Forest Office and the concerned Regional Office of the Ministry, who will monitor such tree plantation efforts undertaken by the UA;
- xvii. The State Government shall ensure the compliance of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 pertaining to the restoration of flora in the entire lease area.
- xviii. The State Government shall ensure that process for settlement of rights, in term of the Scheduled Tribes and Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, has been completed in accordance with the relevant guidelines prescribed by this Ministry's letter No. 11-9/1998-FC (Pt.) dated 03.08.2009 read with 05.07.2013:
- xix. The State Govt. shall ensure that the boundary of the diverted forest land, shall be demarcated on ground at the project cost, by erecting four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars, each inscribed with its serial number, distance from pillar to pillar and GPS co-ordinates, as per the directions of the concerned Divisional Forest Officer:
- xx. The User Agency shall obtain the Environment Clearance as per the provisions of the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, if required;
- xxi. The State Govt. shall ensure that the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal and under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without obtaining prior approval of the Central Government;
- xxii. The User Agency shall restrict the felling of trees to minimum numbers in the diverted forest land and trees shall be felled under strict supervision of the State Forest Department;
- xxiii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Central Government and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal except the change in land use allowed on the forest land vide Ministry's extant guidelines:
- xxiv. No labour camps shall be set up inside the forest area. Labour management plan should be implement with emphasis that no labour camp be set up in the close vicinity of the eco-fragile and sensitive areas;
- xxv. The Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;

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- xxvi. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
  - xxvii. No damage to the flora and fauna of the area shall be caused;
  - xxviii. The concerned Divisional Forest Officer, will monitor and take necessary mitigative measures to ensure that there is no adverse impact on the forests in the surrounding area;
  - xxix. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of Govt. of India;
  - xxx. The State Govt. shall ensure that the monitoring report of this approval is uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>);
  - xxxi. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife shall be carried with by the State Government and user agency; and
  - xxxii. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the Stage-I approval letter dated 12.12.2018 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, pertaining to this project for the time being in force, as applicable to the project.
  - xxxiii. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly;
  - xxxiv. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.16 of Chapter 1 of the Consolidated Guidelines And Clarifications Issued Under Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 issued by this Ministry's letter No. 5-2/2017-FC dated 29.12.2023;
  - xxxv. The State Government and user agency shall ensure compliance to all conditions stipulated in the 'in-principle approval letter dated 12.12.2018 for which undertakings have been obtained from the user agency and also the provisions of the all Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines, relevant Hon'ble Court Order (S) and NGT Order (S), if any, or the time being in force, including compliance of the Schedule Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forests Rights) Act, 2006, before handing over the forest land to the user agency.
6. The Nodal Officer shall be responsible for obtaining the compliance of all the conditions laid down in the Stage-II (final) approval accorded under the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980.

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7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad shall take necessary action, accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

AHMAD NADEEM  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To  
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),  
Telangana, Hyderabad.

**Copy to:**

The Regional Office(SEZ), GoI,  
Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change,  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council,  
34, Cathedral Garden Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai -34.  
The Inspector General of Forests(C),Suboffice, GoI, MoEF&CC, Hyderabad,  
Regional Office, Chennai,6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Aranya bhavan, Hyderabad.  
The Chairman & Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company  
Limited, Singareni Bhavan Red Hills Hyderabad.  
The Director, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and  
Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road,  
New Delhi 110 003.

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//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER